

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Election/Restrictions*

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Claims 1 - 12 in the reply filed on 04/03/2008 is acknowledged. Claims 13 – 18 were cancelled.

## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Eric Grabski, on 06/11/2008.

### **The specification has been amended as follows:**

In page 5 (lines 1 and 19), "**discreet processing**" has been changed to --**discrete processing**--.

In page 6 (line 7), "**discreet processing**" has been changed to --**discrete processing**--.

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In page 9 (line 25), “discreet processing” has been changed to --discrete processing--.

In page 13 (line 22), “discreet processing” has been changed to --discrete processing--.

In page 15 (lines 7 and 11), “discreet processing” has been changed to -discrete processing--.

In page 16 (line 31), “discreet process” has been changed to --discrete process--.

In page 11 (lines 10-11), “The data flow management technique also operates independent of system data rates” has been changed to “The data flow management technique also operates independently of system data rates”.

In page 14 (lines 30-31), “Date capture module 16 acquires data related to associate target 17 in response trigger command 30.” has been changed to “Data capture module 16 acquires data related to associate target 17 in response to trigger command 30.”

**The claims have been amended as follows:**

In page 18 (line 18 of Claim 1), “the processing system comprising a plurality of discreet processing resources” has been changed to “the processing system comprising a plurality of discrete processing resources”.

In page 19 (line 4 of Claim 3), “the control system connected with the data model via one-way communication channel” has been changed to “the control system connected with the data module via one-way communication channel”

***Allowable Subject Matter***

**4. Claims 1 – 12 are allowed.**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding the aforementioned claims, although the prior art teaches an image data acquisition system and method for checking memory available space (or number of available processing resources) and acknowledging an status message comprising a message ID, a trigger command to initiate image data transfer, etc, it does not explicitly teaches a data acquisition system and a failsafe feedback method between a data processing system and a control system for maximizing the resource utilization and preventing data overrun of the data processing system. Also the prior art does not disclose a system that utilizes a method acknowledging the status messages from a processing system while other status messages may still be in transit from the processing system, which applicant's invention does. Furthermore, the present invention provides the control system with information about how much more data the processing system can accept and the control system uses this information as a feedback in order to determine whether to continue to send data.

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5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. Moronaga et al., US 5,473,370 A
2. Norbert Daberko, US 5,787,445 A
3. Tomoko Kuno, US 6,067,624 A
4. Eita Ono, US 6,133,941 A
5. Riley S. Hoyt, US PG Pub 2004/0125774 A1
6. Qu et al., US PG Pub 2004/0203614 A1
7. Kuehnel et al., US PG Pub 2005/0188193 A1
8. Shigeo Yoshida, US PG Pub 2005/0200727 A1

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARLY CAMARGO whose telephone

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number is (571)270-3729. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00AM - 10PM, M-F, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lin Ye can be reached on (571)272-7372. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Lin Ye/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2622